GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:1
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
LPG in Rural Areas
Birla Shri Om;Kesineni Shri Srinivas

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the penetration and reach of LPG in rural areas is unfavourable and if so, the details thereof along with the number of LPG connections and distributors in position in rural areas of the country, State/UT-wise;
(b) the average consumption and coverage of LPG on household basis in rural areas as compared to urban agglomerations along with the steps being taken by the Government to cover more households and provide door-to-door delivery of LPG cylinders in rural areas, State/UT-wise and the achievements thereof;
(c) whether there has been any decline in the usage of solid fuels in rural areas during the last three years and if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken in this regard; and
(d) the funds made available and utilised on subsidies for providing clean cooking fuel to rural population during the above period, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 1 BY SHRI KESINENI NANI AND SHRI OM BIRLA TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH APRIL 2016 REGARDING "LPG IN RURAL AREAS "
(a) & (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) aim to increase the National LPG coverage to 75 % with minimum 60 % coverage at State level and at least one distributor in each block by 2019. OMCs are continuously engaged in increasing the penetration of LPG in rural areas by commissioning new LPG distributorships. In addition, the Government has approved a new scheme Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for release of free LPG connections to 5 crore women belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families during the year 2016-19. The overall LPG coverage in the country (i.e. ratio of nos. of active consumers and nos. of households) is 61.9 %, wherein rural LPG coverage is 35.6 % as on 01.04.2016. The State/UT-wise coverage by OMCs as on 01.04.2016 is at Annexure-I. The State/UT-wise number of LPG connections and distributors is at Annexure-II. The State/UT-wise domestic LPG per capita consumption for the year 2015-16 is at Annexure-III.
All Regular LPG distributors are under instructions to provide home delivery of refills to all registered customers residing in their respective area of operation. Only under exceptional conditions, filled cylinders deliveries on cash and carry basis (non-home delivery) from regular LPG distributor are permitted with a rebate. However, Gramin Vitraks as per policy are authorised to supply refills ex-godown on cash and carry basis at retail selling price without any rebate.
(c) The LPG coverage has been going up in the last few years. With the increase in LPG coverage, especially in rural areas, the dependence of rural population on solid fuels is coming down every year.
(d) OMCs have reported that they have claimed total subsidy/under recovery on Domestic LPG during the last three years (2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16) for urban and rural customers is Rs. 79046 crore and Rs. 31921 crore which is 71.23% and 28.76% respectively. The State/UTs-wise details is at Annexure-IV.